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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
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HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

Incirlik air base to become history - Sabah
Turkey not included in new U.S. 'airbase strategy' - Vatan
U.S. shifts to new bases for swifter action - Aksam
Perle to Ankara: Don't be myopic - Hurriyet
Threat-like warning from Perle - Turkiye
17 House members denounce Wolfowitz - Turkiye
Abbas says dialogue with radical groups will continue -
Milliyet
Gul: EU must remove sanctions on TRNC - Milliyet
Al-Qaida denies allegation of cooperation with Iraq - Sabah

OPINION MAKERS

U.S. to close bases in Turkey - Cumhuriyet
U.S. wants a global network of smaller, flexible bases -
Radikal
Perle: Catastrophe if Turkey doesn't support U.S. against
Iran, Syria - Zaman
EU Cyprus envoy: Annan plan sole opportunity for Cyprus -
Cumhuriyet
Gul: EU adjustment package will be enacted before July -
Radikal
TGS gives green light to EU reform package - Zaman
Sharon freezes road map, declares victory - Yeni Safak

FINANCIAL JOURNALS

Central Bank intervenes for third time, buys dollars - Dunya
Boeing's eye on Turkish Airlines privatization - Finansal
Forum

BRIEFING

U.S. wants 'smaller' bases: Pentagon is planning to use
smaller bases in the Gulf countries instead of those in
Saudi Arabia, and will shift its bases in Turkey and Germany
to Poland, Romania and Bulgaria for future overseas
operations, "Milliyet" reports. The paper expects Incirlik
air base to lose its importance.

CFR's Ankara meetings: The Council on Foreign Relations
(CFR) paid a 'meaningful' visit to Turkey to examine the
'fault line' in U.S.-Turkey relations. The CFR delegation
is particularly interested in the 'new' direction of Turkish
foreign policy following the war in Iraq, according to
"Aksam." The CFR wants to 'understand' Turkey's view of
Iran and Syria, and wants to evaluate Turkish-Israeli ties
as well.

Ambassador Pearson on U.S.-Turkey relations: U.S. Ambassador
Robert Pearson told "Hurriyet" that the U.S. and Turkey,
having cooperated for 50 years, should now make a new
beginning. 'I have never lost hope in Turkey,' Pearson
said, adding that bilateral ties have survived even greater
problems, which were not disclosed. Pearson advised Ankara
to be open and balanced in relations with the U.S.

Perle on Turkey: Pentagon advisor Richard Perle warned
Turkey that bilateral relations with the U.S. would suffer a
serious crisis if Ankara refuses to support American policy
regarding Iran and Syria. Speaking at an American
Enterprise Institute (AEI) conference, Perle stressed that

bilateral ties are still strong despite the parliament's refusal of the March 1 motion on foreign troop deployment in Turkey. Perle also said that Turkey's participation in the international peacekeeping force in Iraq would contribute to regional stability and help U.S.-Turkish cooperation as well. "Hurriyet" notes that Perle's warning comes on the eve of Undersecretary Ziyal's trip to Washington on Sunday. ANCA rejects Turkish call for dialog: The American National Council of Armenians (ANCA) rejected the Turkish government's call for a direct dialogue, saying that Ankara must first recognize the Armenian genocide.

Gul, military on EU reforms package: Foreign Minister Gul called on TGS Chief General Ozkok on Monday to discuss the EU reform package, dailies report. Papers believe that the government and TGS have worked out a compromise on the package which Gul said will be submitted to parliament on Tuesday for approval without waiting for the monthly NSC meeting on June 26. "The EU adjustment package will prove that Muslim countries can also apply democracy, pluralism, modernity, and transparency," Gul said.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq and US-Turkey

"The US-Turkey Route"

Fatih Cekirge observed in the tabloid Star (6/10): "Ankara is paying the consequences of its misguided policies. Despite warnings from the US, Turkey signed trade agreements with Saddam before the war, and today all of these deals have tied Ankara's hands. The Kurdish leaders Barzani and Talabani are no longer taking messages from Turkey seriously. By keeping its distance from the US, Ankara indirectly encouraged Washington and the northern Iraqi leaders to enhance their cooperation. This cooperation is now strong enough to lead to the formation of a federal Kurdish state. Given these facts, Ankara is trying to make things up with Washington. Yet it does not seem likely that bilateral visits will be able to normalize the relationship. The US seems unable to forget about its disappointment with respect to Ankara. Turkey should be prepared for some diplomatic and economic pain due to the ongoing tension on the Ankara-Washington route."

"In Washington the wounds are still open"

Mehmet Ali Birand wrote in mass appeal-sensational Posta (6/10): "Has the AKP government managed to draw up its basic itinerary? What kind of route will that be? Islamist or pro-third world? Or a route that would be similar to that of Washington? In Washington too, these questions are being asked. Washington is looking forward to the messages MFA Undersecretary Ugur Ziyal will be bringing when he arrives next week. Ziyal has a difficult task. He will be in the limelight. When a trip takes place in the limelight amid great expectations, the danger that it will lead to disappointment is enhanced. There are certain words the US administration wants to hear in the short run. Pentagon officials say that the ball is in Ankara's court. The Turks will play by telling the US where they want to go and how they will get there."

PEARSON